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Atty. Dkt. No. P66095US0

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Andreas BOSIO et al.

Serial No.: 09/701,584

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: February 1, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

#12
J.G.J
12/17/01

For: SUPPORTS FOR THE PARALLEL IDENTIFICATION AND TRANSCRIPTION
PROFILING OF POLYNUCLEIC ACIDS

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is submitted to supplement Applicants' response filed in the PTO, November 9, 2001, in order to correct an inadvertent mistake made in the response concerning interpretation of present claim 1.

The mistake concerns the statement made at page 3, last two lines, of the response, which statement reads:

The presently claimed invention is limited to "bifunctional spacers and bifunctional linkers [that] have a length of from 200 to 600 bp" (claim 1).

The aforesaid quoted statement is incorrect, in that the "length of from 200 to 600 bp" recited in claim 1 is not a limitation on the "bifunctional spacers and bifunctional linkers."

The limitation to a "length of from 200 to 600 bp" in claim 1 refers to "said oligo- or polynucleotides," recited at line 3 of the claim. In other words, as correctly interpreted, claim 1 recites "said oligo- or polynucleotides . . . have a length of from 200 to 600 bp." The correct

interpretation is consistent with Applicants' subsequent statements in the response, e.g., wherein the response reads (page 4, lines 3-7):

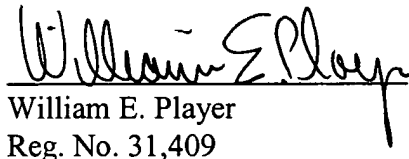
Guo et al. start from synthetic 5'-amino-modified oligonucleotides (*see* materials and methods under the heading "oligonucleotides" on page 5457 of Guo et al). Routine synthesis of oligonucleotides is limited to oligonucleotide sizes up to 80 nucleotides. Therefore, a person skilled in the art cannot simply extend the method of Guo to nucleic acids having a length in the range of 200 to 600 bp.

The mistake was realized upon Applicants' review of the response. Applicants and their representatives apologize for the mistake. Any resulting inconvenience to the Examiner, and the PTO in general, is regretted.

Respectfully submitted,

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